

PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM



FIELD ARTILLERY AND ARMOR ACTIVITY, DMZ AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

NPIC/R-105/69
DECEMBER 1969

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

GROUP 1 EXCLUDED FROM
AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING
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CONFIDENTIAL

W A R N I N G

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FIELD ARTILLERY AND ARMOR ACTIVITY, DMZ AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

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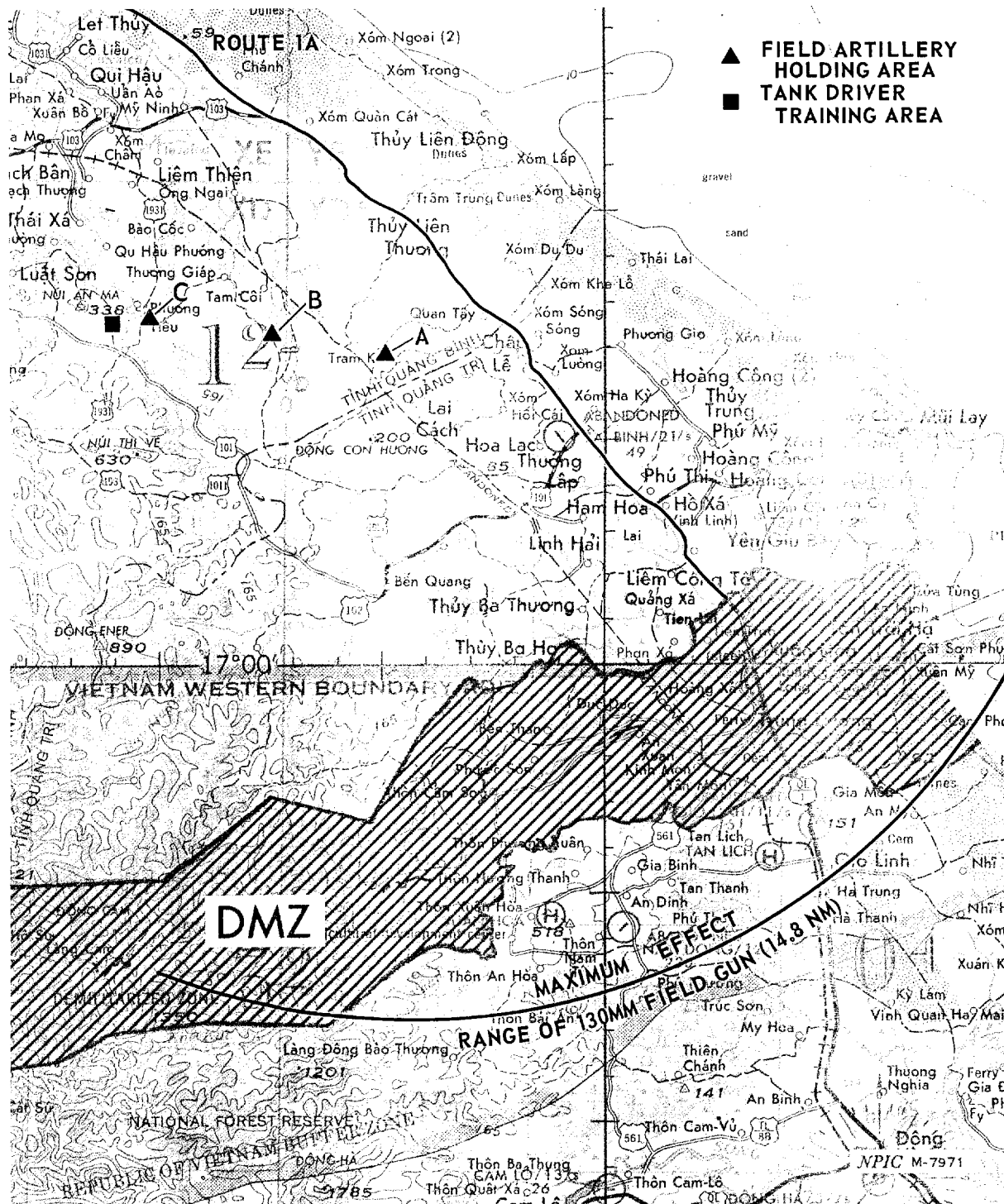


FIGURE 1. FIELD ARTILLERY AND ARMOR ACTIVITY, DMZ AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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FIELD ARTILLERY AND ARMOR ACTIVITY DMZ AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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Three field artillery-holding areas and a tank driver-training area have been observed 7 nautical miles (nm) north of the DMZ (Figure 1) on photography of [REDACTED]

The artillery-holding areas consist of slant-roofed weapon sheds in and around villages. Track activity is also observed at all of the artillery-holding areas. The sheds are open-ended, with either a drive-through or a drive-in capability, and are arranged in irregular patterns. The tubes of artillery weapons protrude from the sheds in this area and, where large weapons are observed, the trails also protrude. The irregular arrangement and the low roof clearances of the sheds indicate that they are used as either protection from weather or as concealment, rather than as firing positions. The North Vietnamese 130mm field gun, the North Vietnamese gun with the longest range, could not effectively reach into South Vietnam if fired from these areas. However, the DMZ could be reached effectively.

The village of Tram Khe (Figure 1, item A) contains six field-artillery sheds along the northwestern edge of the village. The sheds appear unoccupied but four 122mm field guns (D-74)/152 gun howitzers (D-20) and an AT-S tracked prime mover are parked in tree lines in the area (Figure 2). Dong But (Figure 1, item B), 2.8 nm west-northwest of Tram Khe, has six sheds along its southern edge, at least two of which have unidentified artillery tubes protruding from one end. There is also an AT-L tracked prime mover observed. The third area at Co Lieu Phuong (Figure 1, item C), 2.1 nm west of Dong But, consists of five apparently unoccupied sheds.

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Approximately 1 nm west of the Co Lieu Phuong field artillery area, a tank driver-training area containing two oval driving courses oriented in an east-west direction is observed (Figure 3). Two PT-6 tanks with open hatches are located at the eastern end of one course, and 20 personnel are observed immediately to the south of the tanks. Photography of [REDACTED] two days later, reveals the tanks no longer at the course. Later photographic reports indicate one tank was present on the northern boundary of the DMZ.

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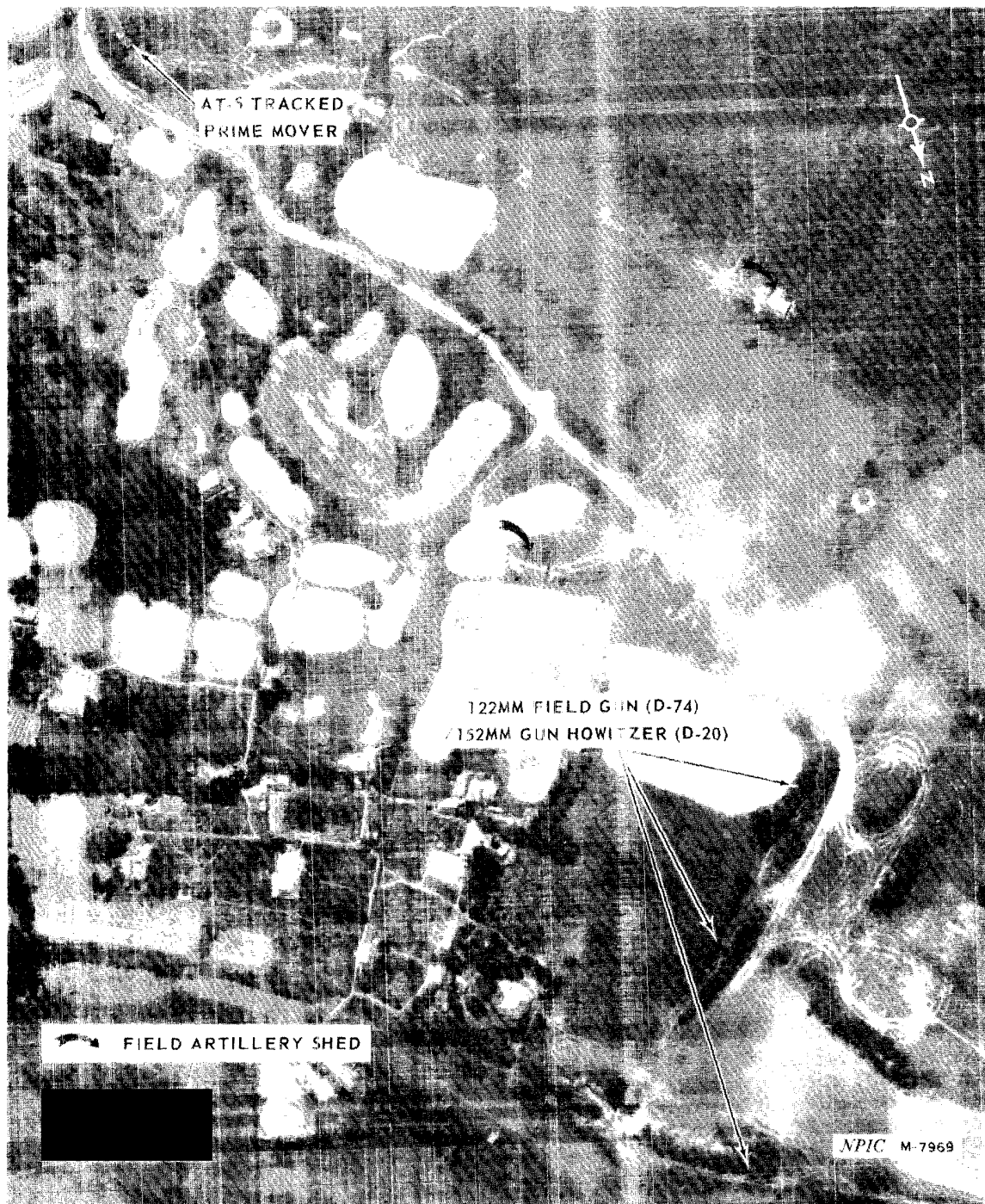


FIGURE 2. FIELD ARTILLERY-HOLDING AREA, PHAM KHE, NORTH VIETNAM

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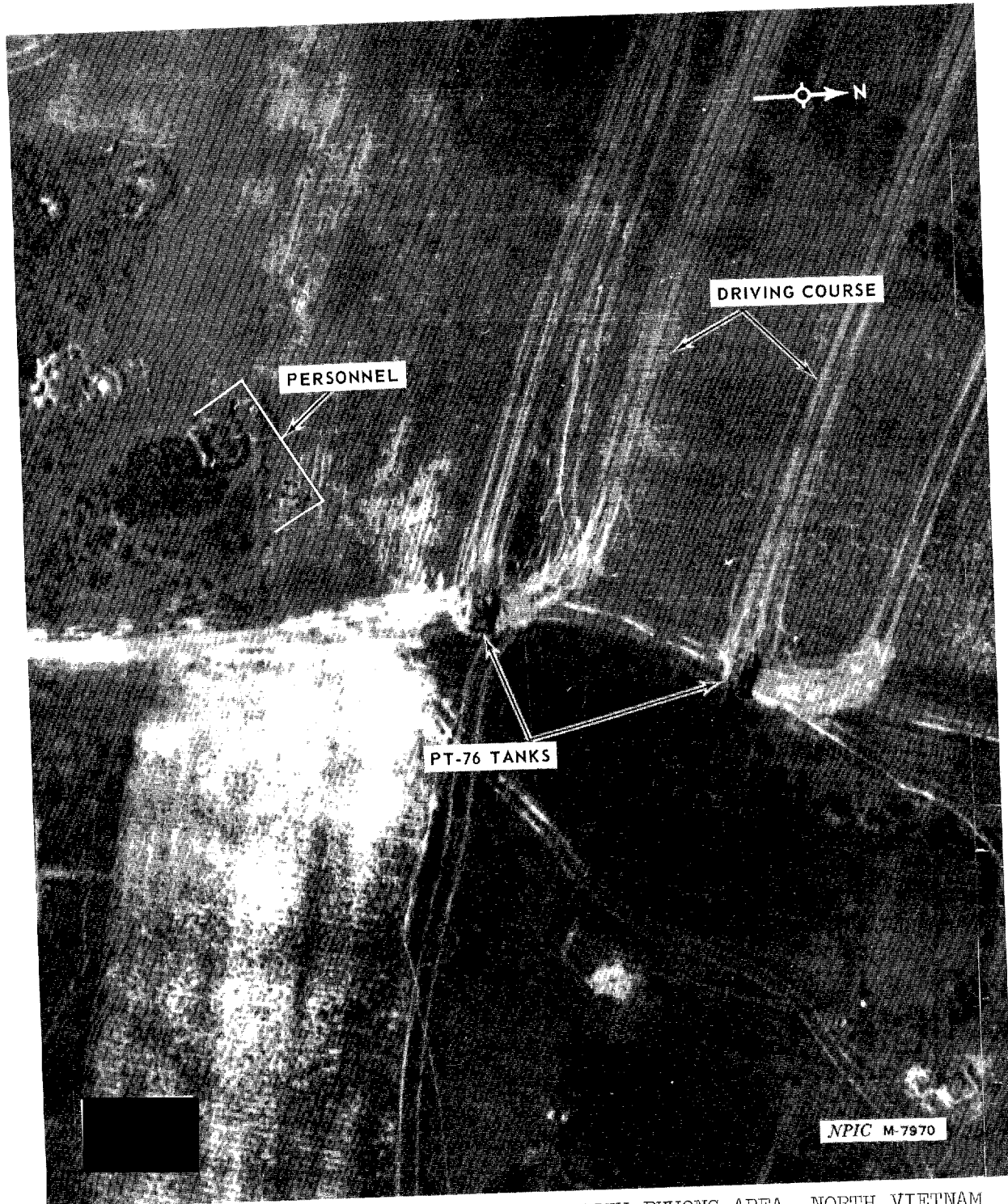


FIGURE 3. TANK DRIVER-TRAINING AREA, CO LIEU PHUONG AREA, NORTH VIETNAM

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